any other chemical fertilizers in India or abroad;

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken to tackle the situation; and

(e) the constraints in using cowdung as manure for agricultural production and the relative cost, prices and viability, on per unit use basis, of using cowdung and chemical fertilizers as manure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) In the field of production of nitrogenous fertilizers, the latest technological developments in ammonia production based on natural gas and naphtha as feedstock have taken place in catalyst science, metallurgy, design and efficiency upgradation of equipment, reduction in energy consumption and recovery & utilisation of waste heat. Stripping technologies for urea have also undergone minor improvements for better efficiency. A few new process as have been developed for revamping of old urea plants. In case of coal based nitrogenous fertilizer plants, the high pressure coal slurry gasification technology has been commercialised. Pipe reactor technology is the most important developmet in the field of production of complex fertilizers like DAP. In the prodcution of nitrophosphate through the nitric acid route, technological development has focussed on increasing the water soluble P205 content by separating calcium nitrate through the chilling technique.

(b) The recenly established natural gas/naphtha based ammonia plants in India are of international standard, incorporating the state-of-the-art technology. The stripping technology for urea production as adopted in the natural gas based plants recently established/ under execution, is the latest available in the world.

The two coal based fertilizers plants operating in India use the first generation atmospheric pressure coal gasification technology. The coal slurry gasification technology for high ash content coal has not been adopted in India.

(c) There is no evidence to show that use of Urea or Potash or any other chemical fertilizers in recommended doses and integrated manner has had adverse effects on Indian soils.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The most important constraint in the use of cowdung as manure is its alternative use as an energy source. Cowdung manure contains all major and micro plant nutrients required for crop growth. The major plant nutrients namely, nitrogen, phosphate and potash, are, however found in it in relatively low proportions. The use of cowdung manure, which is a cheap source of plant nutrients, improves the physical and chemical properties of the soil. Chemical fertilizers, ideally used in conjunction with cowdung and other organic manures, have to play a key role in modern agriculture because of their high nutrient content, easy availability and marketability.

UGC's Control over Universities

200. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UGC exercises any supervisory control over Central Universities and Deemed Universities in the matter of admission and fees, if so, the details of the control exercised; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Under the provisions of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, the UGC can specify by Regulations, matters in respect of which fees may be charged, and the

scale of fees in accordance with which fees shall be charged in respect of those matters on and from such date as specified in the Regulations. The Act does not provide for the UGC exercising control in the matter of admissions.

(b) It is left to the universities to frame their own policies and rules on admission.

Filling up of Reserve Posts in Universities

201. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commissions (UGC) has directed all the Central Universities as well as deemed varsities to fill the teaching and non-teaching posts reserved for SCs/STs;

(b) the targets fixed to fill the teaching and non-teaching posts from SCs/STs and the strength of the staff from SC/ST as on date, including the reasons for non achievement of the target fixed; and

(c) whether the UGC has decided to prepare a national register of qualified SC/ST candidates for the post of lecturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the Central and the Deemed Universities have advised that all vacant posts reserved for SC/ST are required to be filled up by persons belonging to those categories and are not to be dereserved. The Commission has also advised them to fill the teaching and non-teaching reserved posts through Special Recruitment Drive and a copy of the advertisement appearing in newspapers be furnished to them. Further, the posts falling vacant under the roster should be filled only by SC/ST candidates and should not be deresrved.

Information regarding representation of SCs and STs in teaching and non-teaching posts as well as admission of students to various courses in Central and Deemed Universities is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

The Univeristy Grants Commission reviews the progress of the implementation of the reservation policy in letter and spirit through (i) a monitoring Committee; and (ii) periodical meetings with the Vice-Chancellors/ Directors and the Registrars of Central Universities/Deemed Universities.

The University Grants Commission have also decided to prepare a register of qualified SC/ST candidates.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में रेलवे का विस्तार और गेज परिवर्तन

202. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने इस वर्ष के बजट सत्र में हिमाचल प्रदेश में रेलवे के विस्तार और गेज परिवर्तन संबंधी घोषणा के अनुसरण में कोई कार्यवाही आरंभ की है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो अब तक आरंभ किये जा चुके कार्यों का ब्यौरा क्या है और ऐसे प्रत्येक कार्य की अद्यतन स्थिति क्या है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) जी हां।

(ख) नंगलडैम-तलवाड़ा नई लाइन का कार्य रोक दिया गया है और भूमि के अधिग्रहण के संबंध में नक्शे और कागजात तैयार करने का काम शुरू किया गया है। भूमि उपलब्ध हो जाने पर इस काम को फिर से शुरू कर दिया जायेगा। विलासपुर के रास्ते भनुपली से बेरी तक नई लाइन के लिए सर्वेक्षण पूरा हो चुका है और इस परियोजना के लिए धन की व्यवस्था के तौर तरीकों के बारे में हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार के साथ विचार किया जा रहा है पठानकोट-जोगिन्दर नगर कुल्लु घाटी छोटी लाइन को बड़ी लाइन में बदलने तथा इसे बैजनाथ से भनुपली तक बढ़ाने के लिए सर्वेक्षण का कार्य भी हाथ में लिया गया है। इस परियोजना पर आगे विचार करना तभी